THOMPSON/CENTER
A Smith & Wesson® Company

Safety & Instruction Manual

T/C Hawken™ Muzzleloading Rifle

WARNING: Black Powder or an approved Black Powder substitute such as Pyrodex® are the only propellant powders that are safe to use in a muzzleloading firearm.

Read the instructions and warnings in this manual CAREFULLY BEFORE using this firearm.

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WARNING

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS CAREFULLY. BE SURE YOU UNDERSTAND THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS BEFORE USING THIS FIREARM. FAILURE TO READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS AND TO FOLLOW THESE WARNINGS MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU AND OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY

This SAFETY & INSTRUCTION MANUAL should always accompany this firearm and be transferred with it upon change of ownership or when the firearm is presented to another person.

Always keep your firearm pointed in a safe direction. Never point a firearm at anything you do not intend to shoot.

If you don't have a manual, printed copies are available free upon request by contacting the factory at the address below. They are also available via download from the company's web site shown below.

THOMPSON/CENTER ARMS CO., INC.
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YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES 3
SAFE STORAGE & TRANSPORTATION 8
SAFETY RULES FOR THE HAWKEN™ 10
BASIC EQUIPMENT FOR SHOOTING THE HAWKEN™ . . . 13
UNDERSTANDING BLACK POWDER 14
UNDERSTANDING PYRODEX® 15
MODEL & FEATURES IDENTIFICATION 16
PREPARATION FOR FIRING 19
CHARGING THE T/C HAWKEN™ 20
PATCHING THE ROUND BALL 22
PRIMING THE T/C HAWKEN™ CAP LOCK RIFLE 27
PRIMING THE T/C HAWKEN™ FLINT LOCK RIFLE 27
FIRING THE T/C CAP LOCK HAWKEN™ 31
FIRING THE T/C FLINT LOCK HAWKEN™ 32
UNLOADING AND UNCHARGING 34
FIELD CLEANING 36
THOROUGH CLEANING 38
DISASSEMBLY FOR CLEANING 39
RE-ASSEMBLY OF THE T/C HAWKEN™ 41
SIGHT ADJUSTMENT 42
THE HAWKEN™ TRIGGER MECHANISM 42
LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY 44
CONTACT & SHIPPING FOR SERVICE 45
LOAD COMPONENTS 47
SUGGESTED LOADS FOR T/C HAWKEN™ 47

YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

SAFETY IS YOUR NUMBER ONE RESPONSIBILITY!!!!

At home, in the field, at the range, or anywhere, the first concern of every firearm owner should be safety. Apply the following safety rules in every situation, with any kind of firearm. If you feel uncertain about any operational aspects of your firearm, please contact Thompson/Center before proceeding with its operation.

WARNING: YOU MUST FOLLOW ALL OF THESE SAFETY RULES TO ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM. THE FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS IN THIS MANUAL COULD CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY..

As a gun owner, you accept a demanding responsibility. How serious you take this responsibility can be the difference between life and death. There is no excuse for careless or abusive handling of your firearm. At all times handle your firearm with intense respect for its power and potential danger.

YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES CONT'D

- **ALWAYS KEEP YOUR FIREARM POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.** Never point a firearm at anyone or anything you do not intend to shoot whether or not it is loaded. This is particularly important when loading, unloading, or field stripping the gun. ALWAYS control the direction of the firearm.

- **ALWAYS TREAT EVERY FIREARM AS IF IT IS LOADED AND WILL FIRE.** Do not take anyone's word that the firearm is uncharged or unprimed – always check for yourself. Never pass your firearm to another person until the action is open and/or on safe you visually check that it is uncharged and unprimed. Keep your muzzleloading firearm uncharged and unprimed and safely stored when not in use.

- **NEVER PLACE YOUR FINGER INSIDE THE TRIGGER GUARD OR ON THE TRIGGER UNLESS YOU INTEND TO FIRE.** Ensure that other objects do not touch the trigger.

- **ALWAYS BE SURE OF YOUR TARGET AND WHAT IS BEYOND IT.** Always be sure of where the bullet will strike and shoot only where there is a safe back stop free of obstructions, water or other surfaces which can cause ricochets. Be sure your bullet will stop behind your target. Bullets can glance off many surfaces like rocks or the surface of water and travel in unpredictable directions with considerable velocity. Do not fire randomly into the sky.

- **NEVER CROSS OBSTACLES SUCH AS FENCES OR STREAMS WITH A CHARGED OR PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM.** Always make certain your muzzleloading firearm is unprimed before crossing a fence, climbing a tree, jumping a ditch or negotiating other obstacles.

- **SAFE GUN HANDLING IS YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AT ALL TIMES.** Firearms are dangerous and can cause serious injury or death if they are misused or used inappropriately. Safety must be the prime consideration of any one who owns or handles firearms. Accidents are the result of violating the rules of safe gun handling and common sense. Firearm safety training is available. Contact your firearms dealer, law enforcement agency, local sportsman's club, etc. for availability.

- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FIREARM AT ALL TIMES.** In owning a firearm, you must undertake full-time responsibility for your firearm's safety and security. You must protect yourself and all others against injury or death from misuse of the firearm 24 hours a day.

- **FIREARM SECURITY IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** You must secure firearms safely from children and/or unauthorized users. Your firearm should always be kept unloaded and locked when not in use. Never assume that the use of this lock is sufficient to safely secure your firearm. You must always evaluate your personal situation and employ the security systems that meet your needs and prevent children and unauthorized users from gaining access to your firearm.

YOUR SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES CONT'D

- **APPROPRIATE USE FOR YOUR FIREARM MEANS USING YOUR FIREARM FOR LEGAL PURPOSES.** For example - target shooting, hunting and lawful resistance of deadly criminal force. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in compliance with all applicable laws and ordinances regarding the use of your firearm.

- **NEVER RELY ON MECHANICAL FEATURES ALONE.** Only your safe gun-handling habits will ensure the safe use of your firearm. This is your responsibility.

- **ALWAYS SAFELY STORE AND SECURE YOUR FIREARM.** Safe and secure storage of your firearm is one of your most important responsibilities. It is a full-time responsibility. You must always secure your firearm and ammunition and loading components separately so that they are not accessible to children and/or other unauthorized persons.

- **NEVER KEEP AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS IN THE SAME LOCATION AS THE FIREARM.** Store each in a separate and secure place.

- **ALWAYS WEAR EYE PROTECTION THAT IS SPECIFIED FOR USE WITH FIREARMS** every time you handle your firearm for cleaning and maintenance.

- **ALWAYS WEAR EYE AND EAR PROTECTORS THAT ARE SPECIFIED FOR USE WITH FIREARMS** every time you discharge your firearm. Make sure others in the vicinity of where you will be shooting do so as well.

- **NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS BEFORE OR WHILE SHOOTING.** Do not use your firearm if you are on any medication which impairs, even slightly, your mental or physical ability.

- **ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION.** Discharging firearms in poorly ventilated areas, cleaning firearms, or handling ammunition and loading components may result in exposure to lead and other substances known to cause birth defects, reproductive harm, and other serious physical injury. Review the warnings and labels for all ammunition and loading components and cleaning products carefully. Wash hands thoroughly after exposure.

- **BEFORE HANDLING ANY FIREARM, UNDERSTAND ITS OPERATION.** Not all firearms are the same. Familiarize yourself with the mechanical features of any firearm you intend to use. If you feel uncertain about any operational aspects of your firearm, please contact Thompson/Center before proceeding with its operation.

- **NEVER ALLOW A FIREARM TO BE USED BY INDIVIDUALS WHO DO NOT UNDERSTAND ITS SAFE OPERATION OR HAVE NOT READ THESE FIREARM SAFETY RULES.**

- **ALWAYS USE THE CORRECT COMBINATION OF LOAD COMPONENTS (POWDER, PRIMER AND PROJECTILE) FOR YOUR PARTICULAR MUZZLELOADING FIREARM** as detailed in this manual.

- **BE CERTAIN THE BARREL IS CLEAR OF OBSTRUCTIONS BEFORE SHOOTING.** Mud, water, snow or other objects may inadvertently lodge in the barrel bore. A small obstruction can cause a dangerous increase in pressure and may damage your gun and cause injury to yourself and others.

- **BE SURE ALL ACCESSORIES, SUCH AS HOLSTERS, GRIPS, SLINGS, SCOPES AND OTHER ACCESSORIES ARE COMPATIBLE** with the firearm and that the accessories do not interfere with safe operation. It is your responsibility to understand and follow all of the instructions in this manual,as well as those which may be supplied with your ammunition and loading components and any accessory.

- **NEVER DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM** beyond the procedures outlined in this manual. Improper disassembly or reassembly of your firearm may be dangerous and can lead to serious injury or death.

- **NEVER MANIPULATE, ADJUST OR CHANGE ANY OF THE INTERNAL COMPONENTS OF YOUR FIREARM UNLESS SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED TO DO SO IN THIS MANUAL.** Improper manipulation of any other internal component may affect the safety and reliability of your firearm and may cause serious injury or death.

- **NEVER ALLOW ANY ALTERATION OR REPLACEMENT OF PARTS IN YOUR THOMPSON/CENTER FIREARM UNLESS PERFORMED BY A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH** using genuine Thompson/Center parts. If you do otherwise, improper functioning of your firearm may occur and serious injury or death and damage to property may result.

WARNING: SAFE USE OF A FIREARM IS YOUR PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND THE FAILURE TO FOLLOW ALL OF THESE BASIC SAFETY RULES MAY RESULT IN SEVERE PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. YOU ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT SAFETY DEVICE WHEN IT COMES TO THE USE OF YOUR FIREARM AND THOMPSON/CENTER AND ITS PARENT COMPANY WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE THAT RESULTS FROM: (1) THE CRIMINAL OR NEGLIGENT USE OF THIS FIREARM; (2) A DISREGARD OF THESE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS AND WARNINGS; (3) IMPROPER OR CARELESS HANDLING OF THIS FIREARM; (4) THE USE OF NON-STANDARD, DEFECTIVE, IMPROPER LOAD COMPONENTS OR (5) IMPROPER OR NEGLIGENT MODIFICATIONS OR REPAIRS TO THE FIREARM.

- **NEVER CLIMB TO OR DESCEND FROM A TREE STAND WITH A PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM. NEVER RAISE OR LOWER A PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM TO OR FROM A TREE STAND.** Tree stands are potentially hazardous. If you feel that you must use a tree stand, purchase a top-quality brand only and follow the manufacturer's instructions to the letter. Failure to follow this rule may cause serious injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **NEVER LEAN A CHARGED AND PRIMED RIFLE AGAINST A TREE, WALL OR ANY SURFACE**. Once the rifle has been charged it is your responsibility to guard it against accidental bumps.

- **USE THOMPSON/CENTER SCOPE MOUNTS ONLY**. The current product catalog lists a series of scopes and mounts which are designed specifically for use with our firearms. These mounts make use of existing screw holes. Those who desire a scope sight should make use of Thompson/Center mounts. Do not drill additional holes in the barrel as this could weaken the barrel structure leading to a rupture. A ruptured barrel can cause serious injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **NEVER MODIFY ANY OF THE PARTS IN YOUR FIREARM.** Do not add or replace any of the parts in your firearm unless they are genuine Thompson/Center parts and you follow the instructions supplied by Thompson/Center. If you do otherwise, improper functioning may occur and serious injury or death may result. In addition to the dangers presented, the use of non-factory parts, including but not limited to, barrels and springs, voids all warranties.

WARNING: NEVER RELY ON MECHANICAL SAFETY FEATURES OF THE GUN ALONE. ONLY YOUR SAFE GUN HANDLING WILL ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM. THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

SAFE STORAGE & TRANSPORTATION

WARNING: ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: FIREARMS ARE DANGEROUS WHEN USED AND STORED IMPROPERLY. THEY POSE A RISK OF SERIOUS OR FATAL INJURIES. FIREARMS CAN BE ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS TO CHILDREN WHEN THEY ARE STORED IN AN IRRESPONSIBLE AND UNSAFE MANNER. FOR YOUR SAFETY AND THE SAFETY OF OTHERS, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT YOU KEEP YOUR FIREARM LOCKED AND UNLOADED IN A SECURE PLACE. THE AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS SHOULD BE STORED IN A SEPARATE, SECURE LOCATION WHEN IT IS NOT IN USE. SAFE AND SECURE STORAGE OF YOUR FIREARM IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT RULES OF FIREARM SAFETY. YOUR FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS.

- **ALWAYS SECURE YOUR FIREARM IN A MANNER THAT WILL PREVENT UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS.** Whenever your firearm is not in use, keep it unloaded and locked. Your safety and the safety of others requires that you always secure and store your firearm in a manner that will prevent unauthorized access. Never leave a firearm unattended unless it is locked, unloaded and secured.

WARNING: NEVER LOCK A LOADED FIREARM AND NEVER LOAD A LOCKED FIREARM!

- **ALWAYS STORE YOUR FIREARM AND AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS SEPARATELY** so that they are not accessible to children or other unauthorized persons. Safe and secure storage of your firearm and ammunition and loading components are your responsibility. It is a full-time responsibility.

- **NEVER ASSUME THAT A "HIDING" PLACE IS A SECURE STORAGE METHOD.** Others may be aware of your storage location or come upon it by chance. It is your personal responsibility to use common sense when storing your firearm and ammunition and loading components and to always make sure they are not accessible to children or other unauthorized persons.

- **NEVER TRANSPORT A CHARGED OR PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM.** When transporting your firearm, be sure it is uncharged, unprimed and securely locked. Safe and secure transportation of your firearm is your responsibility.

- **ALWAYS FOLLOW THE LAW!** Many jurisdictions have laws that make it a crime to keep a firearm unlocked and in an area accessible to children or others. Keeping a firearm locked and unloaded when not in use is not only common sense safety practice... IT IS THE LAW. You must be familiar with all local, state, and federal laws regarding the safe storage and transportation of your firearm. Failure to know and follow the law may result in unauthorized access or use of your firearm by another. Obey all laws relating to the storage and transportation of firearms. Your local police department or gun shop can furnish you with available information on storing and/or transporting a firearm safely and legally.

- **YOUR FIREARM IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.** You must prevent your firearm from being stolen or from being used by untrained or unqualified individuals. Keep it locked, uncharged, unprimed and secured when not in use.

SAFETY RULES FOR THE HAWKEN™

In addition to the Safety Responsibilities covered so far in this manual, there are several guidelines specific to black powder muzzleloading guns that must be adhered to at all times to ensure the safety of the shooter and others.

- **NEVER USE SMOKELESS POWDER OF ANY TYPE OR IN ANY QUANTITY IN A MUZZLELOADING FIREARM, AND NEVER MIX POWDERS.** The use of any smokeless powder could result in a detonation or explosion which could cause injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **USE ONLY BLACK POWDER OR AN APPROVED BLACK POWDER SUBSTITUTE SUCH AS PYRODEX® TO LOAD YOUR MUZZLELOADING FIREARM**. Never use even small amounts of smokeless powder, even if it is black in color. The use of any other propellant may cause injury or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **NEVER SMOKE WHILE USING YOUR MUZZLELOADER**. The spark from a lighted cigarette, cigar or pipe can ignite Black Powder or a Black Powder substitute such as Pyrodex®, Percussion Caps or Primers. Smoking around a charged and/or primed muzzleloader, percussion caps, primers, priming powder or supply of powder may cause premature firing of the gun or an explosion of the powder can, horn or flask causing serious injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **BEFORE LOADING, MAKE SURE THE MUZZLELOADING FIREARM IS NOT ALREADY CHARGED.** To make sure it is uncharged, keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and insert the ramrod provided with the rifle into the bore. Note the position of the ramrod in relation to the muzzle. It will be about one inch beyond the end of the barrel if the rifle is not loaded.

- **NEVER EXCEED THE RECOMMENDED MAXIMUM CHARGE LISTED IN THIS BOOK.** To do so could result in injury or death to the shooter or bystanders.

- **WHEN LOADING, BE CERTAIN THAT THE PROJECTILE IS LOADED IN THE PROPER SEQUENCE AND THAT IT IS SEATED PROPERLY.** Serious personal injury or death can result if the projectile is not seated properly. To provide a reference mark for future loadings, mark the ramrod at the muzzle once a projectile has been loaded to the proper depth. NOTE: Be sure to recheck the ramrod mark if you change loading components or alter the ramrod.

- **NEVER POUND ON THE RAMROD**. Black Powder and approved Black Powder substitutes such as Pyrodex® are potentially sensitive to impact and could ignite from impact. Always keep the muzzle directed away from your face or body when loading.

- **BLACK POWDER AND BLACK POWDER SUBSTITUTES SUCH AS PYRODEX® LEAVE CORROSIVE RESIDUES IN THE BORE AND ON THE GUN.** A thorough cleaning is absolutely necessary before storage for any amount of time to keep the firearm functioning correctly and in safe condition.

- **UNDERSTAND THE TERMINOLOGY** "Charge" or "Charged" which applies to the presence of a propellant powder charge and projectile in the bore of the muzzleloading firearm.

- "Uncharge" or "Uncharged" refers to the opposite condition to "Charged" and indicates that the powder charge and projectile have been either fired or removed and that the bore is completely clear.

  "Prime" or "Primed" applies to the act of placing a primer, cap or priming powder in or on a muzzleloader.

- "Unprime" or "Unprimed" refers to the opposite condition of "Primed" and indicates that the primer, cap or priming powder has been removed from the firearm or is not in place.

- **NEVER PRIME YOUR MUZZLELOADING GUN UNTIL YOU ARE READY TO FIRE IT.** Your muzzleloader should remain unprimed until the instant before firing. After you prime the firearm, your full concentration should be on the target and the act of firing.

WARNING: KEEP PEOPLE AND FLAMMABLE MATERIAL AWAY FROM THE TOUCHHOLE AREA. WHEN FIRING ANY FLINT LOCK MUZZLELOADER, THE "FLASH" FROM THE TOUCHHOLE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE INJURY.

- **A SHARP OR HEAVY BLOW TO THE EXTERNAL HAMMER CAN FRACTURE PARTS AND CAUSE A MALFUNCTION OR DISCHARGE OF THE FIREARM**. An accidental discharge may cause serious injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **NEVER HAND A CHARGED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM TO ANOTHER PERSON.** Once charged, a muzzleloading firearm requires your complete attention. Never charge the firearm and then hand it to another shooter. Equally, you should never shoot a muzzleloading firearm that has been charged by someone else. Only the person doing the loading knows whether the firearm has been charged properly.

- **DO NOT CHARGE YOUR MUZZLELOADER DIRECTLY FROM A CAN, HORN OR FLASK.** A spark from a previous firing may ignite the stream of powder being poured into the gun and cause the container to explode. The explosion of a powder can, horn or flask can cause serious injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property. Use a separate pre-calibrated measuring device containing small quantities of powder to charge your gun. Keep the muzzle directed away from your face and body when loading.

- **ALWAYS KEEP SUPPLIES OF POWDER AND PRIMERS WELL AWAY FROM A FIRING POSITION OR SHOOTING BENCH.** A powder horn, flask, can of powder, or quantity of primers can ignite with deadly force if exposed to sparks or intense heat. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe handling and storage of powder and primers. Keep unused powder and primers well away from firearms that are being discharged. Sparks from the discharge of a muzzleloading firearm may cause an unused supply of powder or primers to ignite causing serious injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- You must follow this procedure every time a firearm leaves your hand, is cleaned, handed to you or another person, transported or stored.

WARNING: NEVER RELY ON MECHANICAL FEATURES ALONE. ONLY YOUR SAFE GUN HANDLING WILL ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM. THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

WARNING: NEVER DRY-FIRE YOUR FLINT LOCK WHEN THE BARREL IS CHARGED. A SPARK FROM DRY-FIRING COULD RESULT IN AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE.

BASIC EQUIPMENT FOR SHOOTING THE T/C HAWKEN™

In order to shoot your Thompson/Center Hawken muzzleloader, the minimum accessories or equipment from the following list will be necessary.

WARNING: DO NOT ATTEMPT TO SHOOT YOUR MUZZLELOADING FIREARM UNTIL YOU HAVE READ THIS MANUAL IN ITS ENTIRETY AND UNDERSTAND IT FULLY. FAILURE TO READ AND FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND ANY OR ALL OF THIS MATERIAL, CALL THE CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT AT THOMPSON/CENTER.

1. Proper eye protection - specified for use with firearms.

2. Proper ear protection - specified for use with firearms..

3. Black Powder or an approved Black Powder substitute such as Pyrodex®, in the appropriate granulation for your particular firearm.

4. Number 11 percussion caps for cap lock models. FFFG Black Powder for priming flint lock models.

5. A Powder Measure.

6. Projectiles: Appropriate for your firearm.

7. Bore cleaning patches.

8. A Jag to hold cleaning patches

9. An appropriate bore cleaner (Like Thompson/Center's Number 13® Bore Cleaner).

10. An appropriate oil or rust inhibiting lubricant (Like T/C's Natural Lube 1000 Plus Bore Butter™.

UNDERSTANDING BLACK POWDER

Shooting muzzleloading firearms requires the shooter to be both a reloader and a rifleman at the same time. It requires strict adherence to the instructions set forth in this booklet. Failure to follow these instructions may cause damage to the firearm and injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

NOTE: Black Powder is manufactured in four specific types or granulations for use in firearms. Generally speaking, it is the granule size which determines the appropriate use of Black Powder. The largest granulations are naturally the slowest burning and, therefore, work best in large caliber rifles and shotguns. Pistols or smaller caliber rifles require a finer or faster burning powder. The priming powder used in the pan of a flint lock is extremely fine and fast burning for positive ignition of the main charge.

FG (commonly called Single "F")
The muzzleloading enthusiast finds little use for this very coarse black powder. It's use is restricted to the large bore (10, 8, 4 gauge) shotguns of yesteryear.

FFG (commonly called Double "F")
This is a very popular powder for .45 caliber to .58 caliber rifles. It is also used for 12, 16, and 20 gauge muzzleloading shotguns. While it is not considered a pistol powder, it is sometimes used in very large caliber single shot pistols. It is recommended for use in most T/C muzzleloaders.

FFFG (commonly called Triple "F")
Due to its wide range of uses, Triple "F" is the black powder that is most commonly found on a dealer's shelf. It is used in all percussion revolvers, most single shot pistols, and most of the smaller (under .45 caliber) rifles. In a pinch, it can also be used to prime a flint lock.

FFFFG (commonly called Four "F")
The finest of all currently available black powders, Four "F" is best used for priming flint locks. Due to its limited use, it is sometimes difficult to obtain.

When purchasing Black Powder be certain that it is in the original manufacturer's container and that its granulation or type is clearly marked on the label. Follow the storage and handling precautions which are on the label. If you have any questions concerning the safe handling or storage of Black Powder, write to the manufacturer of the powder. Additional information on powder storage is available from the National Fire Protection Association, P.O. Box 9146, Quincy, Mass. 02269. Or call 1-800-344-3555. Ask for pamphlet #495.

UNDERSTANDING PYRODEX®

Pyrodex® is a propellant powder designed for use in muzzleloading cap lock rifles, pistols and shotguns. Pyrodex is not Black Powder. In accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, Pyrodex relates closely to Black Powder on a volume to volume basis (not weight of charge). In other words, a black powder measure that is set to dispense 70 grains of black powder will, in fact, dispense approximately 52 grains of Pyrodex (by weight). This lighter charge of Pyrodex will provide a charge which is ballistically similar to 70 grains of Black Powder. For all practical purposes, knowing the actual weight of a charge of Pyrodex may be informative, but not necessary. Your black powder measure will dictate the proper amount by its graduations according to volume. If you want to know the actual comparative weight of a Pyrodex charge, contact the manufacturer, Hodgdon Powder Co. Inc., 6231 Robinson, Shawnee Mission, KS 66202-1332.

Pyrodex does not ignite as easily as Black Powder and, consequently, it is not recommended for use in flint lock firearms. Flint locks require strong, positive ignition and should be charged and primed with Black Powder of the appropriate granulation only.

PYRODEX® CTG - FOR BLACK POWDER CARTRIDGES. This powder was designed to be used in early model breech loading cartridge firearms (rifles, pistols & shotguns) which were intended for use with Black Powder only. It has no application in Thompson/Center muzzleloading firearms. It is listed here simply for identification purposes.

PYRODEX® RS (or PYRODEX SELECT "RS") RIFLE & SHOTGUN POWDER. Designed for use in all calibers of percussion muzzleloading rifles and shotguns, this powder has a wide application. It may be used with all Thompson/Center muzzleloading rifles and shotguns. Pyrodex Select (RS) may also be used in these applications.

PYRODEX® P - PISTOL POWDER. Designed for use in most percussion muzzleloading pistols and cap and ball revolvers, this powder has application in the Thompson/Center Patriot™ Pistol.

The reader should bear in mind that Thompson/Center does not manufacture or sell powder of any type. If there is ever a question as to the proper application of a particular powder or the safety of a given charge, write to the manufacturer of the powder. Adhere to the safe handling and storage precautions printed on the manufacturer's container and never purchase or use powders which have been removed from their original container. USE OF THE WRONG PROPELLANT may cause injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property. For information on Pyrodex write to Hodgdon Powder Co., Inc., 6231 Robinson, Shawnee Mission, KS 66202-1332.

MODEL & FEATURES IDENTIFICATION

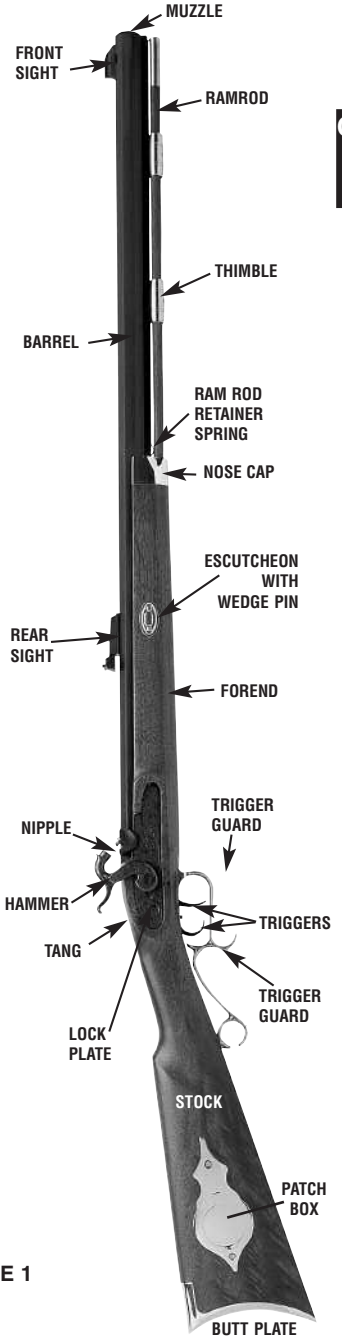


FIGURE 1

DETAILS OF A FLINT LOCK ASSEMBLY

WARNING: NEVER DRY-FIRE YOUR HAWKEN™. DAMAGE COULD RESULT OR A SPARK FROM DRY-FIRING COULD RESULT IN AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE.

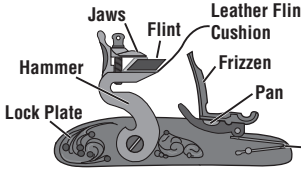


FIGURE 2

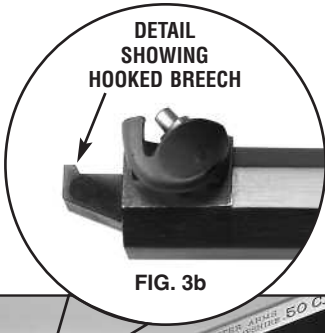


FIG. 3b

HAMMER MUST BE IN HALF-COCK POSITION WHEN ASSEMBLING OR DIS-ASSEMBLING
FOR ASSEMBLY & DISASSEMBLY. THE BARREL MUST BE LIFTED AS SHOWN TO UNLOCK THE HOOKED BREECH PLUG FROM THE TANG .

FIGURE 3a

FIGURE 4

Double-Set Trigger Details

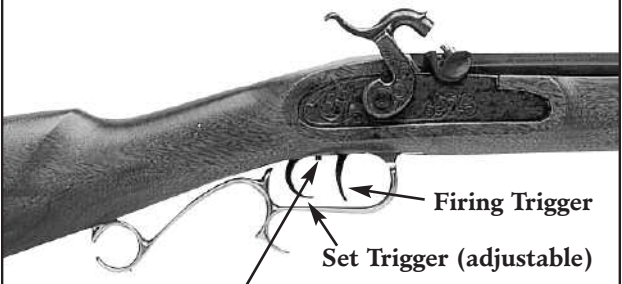


FIGURE 5a

FIGURE 5b

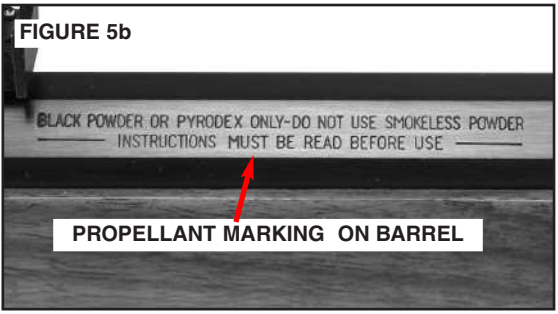

BLACK POWDER OR PYRODEX ONLY-DO NOT USE SMOKELESS POWDER
INSTRUCTIONS MUST BE READ BEFORE USE
PROPELLANT MARKING ON BARREL

FIGURE 5c

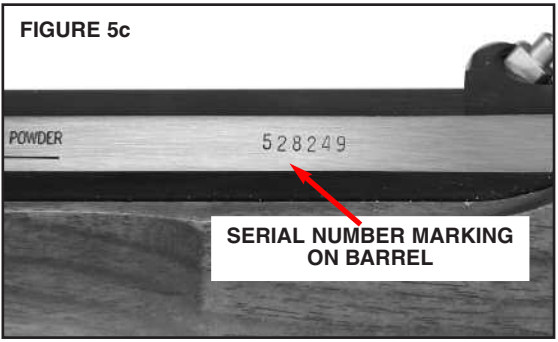
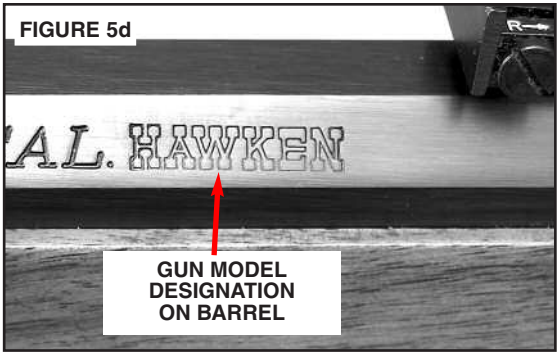


FIGURE 5d



PREPARATION FOR FIRING

WARNING:THE FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE FIREARM SAFETY REQUIREMENTS WILL CAUSE SERIOUS PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH TO YOU OR OTHERS.

- **ALWAYS TREAT ALL FIREARMS AS IF THEY WERE LOADED.**
- **ALWAYS WEAR ADEQUATE AND PROPER EAR PROTECTORS SPECIFIED FOR FIREARM USE** to prevent permanent damage to your hearing. Make sure others who are nearby are wearing ear protection as well.
- **ALWAYS WEAR PROPER CLOTHING WHEN FIRING A MUZZLELOADER** wearing long sleeves is recommended to protect arms from debris that may be ejected during firing.
- **ALWAYS WEAR SAFETY GLASSES SPECIFIED FOR FIREARM USE,** whether indoors or out. Safety glasses should protect your eyes from the firing flash and particles associated with the discharge of a muzzleloader. Failure to do so creates a risk of personal injury from particle or debris spitting or ricochets. Make sure others who are nearby are wearing eye protection as well.
- **ALWAYS BE ALERT AND ALWAYS FOLLOW THE SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS OF THE RANGE OFFICER.** Never shoot if you are tired, cold or impaired in any way.
- **ALWAYS BE AWARE OF OTHER PEOPLE** so that persons cannot accidentally walk into the line of fire.
- **THE SHOOTER (AND ALL OTHERS IN THE SHOOTING AREA) MUST ALWAYS BE IN A POSITION THAT IS OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE** and are not within an area where they may be struck by ricochets or particles ejected from a firearm.
- **NEVER SHOOT AT HARD SURFACES,WATER OR RANDOMLY INTO THE SKY.** Always select a place to shoot that has a safe backstop and is free from obstructions and water surfaces which cause ricochets.
- **NEVER USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS BEFORE OR WHILE SHOOTING OR HANDLING ANY FIREARM.**
- **NEVER SMOKE WHILE SHOOTING OR HANDLING A MUZZLELOADING FIREARM.**
- **ALWAYS KEEP LOADING COMPONENTS AND LOADING RESERVES WELL AWAY FROM THE MUZZLELOADER WHEN FIRING.**

CHARGING THE T/C HAWKEN™

WARNING: ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

NOTE: The loading data found in the back of this manual was compiled using Pyrodex® or Black Powder as a propellant. With any other approved Black Powder substitute, follow the instructions supplied by the manufacturer and heed all warnings and instructions as they apply to loading and usage of that product.

- Inspect the bore for obstructions and oil or grease (and clean if necessary). This is true with the rifle as it comes from the factory, as it has been treated with anti-rust compound that needs to cleared before use.

- Do not load the muzzleloading firearm until you have read and fully understand this manual.

- Do not load or prime the muzzleloading firearm until you are ready to use it. Keep your finger off the trigger and outside the trigger guard until you are ready to fire.

- Read this manual in its entirety before attempting to load your muzzleloading firearm. Improper loading and use of your firearm can cause injury and/or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- Study the photo on page 21 carefully and read all the captions before you charge your muzzleloading rifle.The photo shows a shooter in the process of loading a Hawken™ muzzleloader.

- Make sure it is unprimed and uncharged.

- With a cap lock, place the hammer in the half-cock position and ensure that no percussion cap is present on the nipple.

- With a flint lock, place the hammer in the half-cock position, open the frizzen and remove any priming charge that may be present in the pan.

- Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and insert the ramrod provided with the rifle into the bore. Note the position of the ramrod in relation to the muzzle. The ramrod that came with the rifle from the factory will protrude about one inch beyond the end of the barrel if the rifle is not loaded (Figure 6).

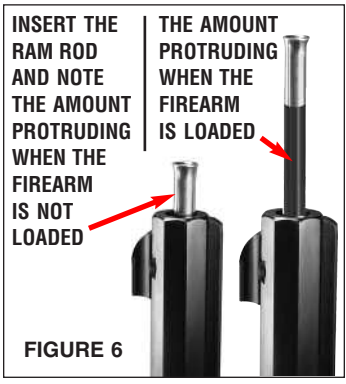

INSERT THE RAM ROD AND NOTE THE AMOUNT PROTRUDING WHEN THE FIREARM IS NOT LOADED
THE AMOUNT PROTRUDING WHEN THE FIREARM IS LOADED
FIGURE 6

FIGURE 7

WARNING: IMPROPERLY CHARGING YOUR T/C HAWKEN™ MUZZLELOADING RIFLE CAN BE DANGEROUS. READ THIS MANUAL AND STUDY THIS PHOTO CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING.

Stay mentally alert. This task requires your complete attention.

Eyes, ears & arms protected.

Hold barrel securely with muzzle upwards - directed away from your face and body.

Do Not Smoke while loading any muzzleloader.

Use Black Powder or an approved Black Powder substitute, such as Pyrodex®. With loose powder use a T/C graduated powder measure and do not overcharge. NEVER charge directly from a powder flask, can or powder horn.

Keep compnents & reserve powder well away from the firearm.

Rifle's butt resting firmly on the ground & supported by the side of the shooter's foot to prevent slipping.

Rifle unprimed hammer in half-cock position.

WARNING: NEVER DRY-FIRE YOUR HAWKEN™ AS DAMAGE TO THE FIREARM COULD RESULT.

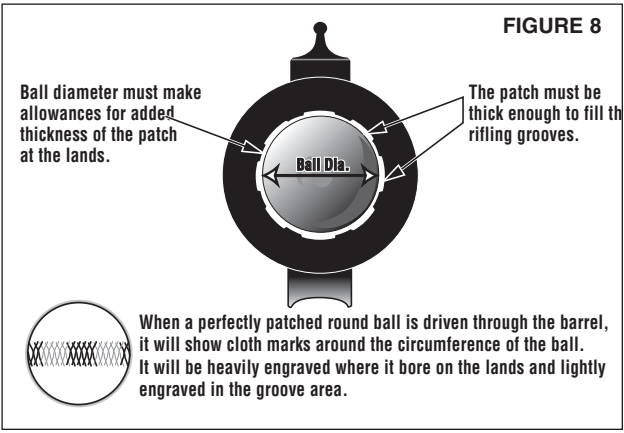
• Commit this exercise to memory and practice it every time that you handle the Hawken™ muzzleloader. Before you attempt to load it - before you store it away - before you hand it to a friend or leave it unattended, always check to ensure that the muzzle-loading firearm is unprimed and uncharged.

• Wipe the bore free of all oil before loading. Be meticulous with your cleaning - for the presence of any amount of oil in the barrel or chamber can dampen the powder charge and cause the rifle to misfire or hangfire (see section on "Cleaning").

PATCHING THE ROUND BALL

TO SHOOT PROPERLY, THE ROUND BALL MUST BE TIGHTLY PATCHED. IF THE ROUND BALL IS NOT TIGHTLY PATCHED, IT MAY, BY MOVEMENT OF THE FIREARM, WORK ITS WAY OFF THE POWDER CHARGE AND UP THE BORE. UNDER SUCH A CONDITION THE BALL WILL ACT AS A BARREL OBSTRUCTION AND FIRING CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BY-STANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

FIGURE 8


Ball diameter must make allowances for added thickness of the patch at the lands.
Ball Dia.
The patch must be thick enough to fill th rifling grooves.
When a perfectly patched round ball is driven through the barrel, it will show cloth marks around the circumference of the ball. It will be heavily engraved where it bore on the lands and lightly engraved in the groove area.

• It is the job of the lubricated cloth patch to hold the ball tightly against the powder charge until firing and to securely grip both the ball and the rifling so as to transfer the spin of the rifling to the projectile itself. If the patch fits too loosely, the ball will not spin and its flight will be unstable (Figure 8).

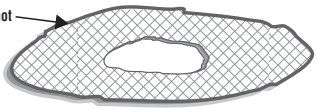
• When shooting a muzzleloading firearm, recover a few of the fired patches and check their condition. Fired patches can usually be found lying on the ground about 10 yards in front of the muzzle. The following illustration will help you to determine whether your patch and/or lubricant is doing its job (Figure 9).

• Lubricant is required to ease loading and prevent the patch material from burning. Thompson/Center recommends the use of patches lubricated with Natural Lube 1000 Plus Bore Butter™.

FIGURE 9

Efficient Patch
A patch which is working correctly can be found intact. The area behind the ball which is exposed to burning powder will be blackened .

Burned Out Patch
If the patch material is too thin, frail, or not properly lubricated, it may burn through upon firing. The patch shown here illustrates this condition.



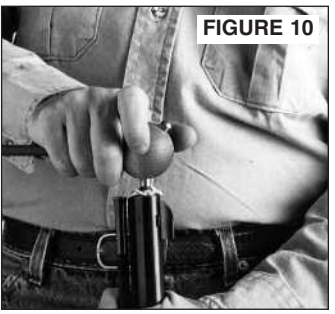
DO NOT USE ANY TYPE OF PLASTIC PATCH OR SABOT WITH A ROUND BALL IN ANY THOMPSON/CENTER FIREARM. WHEN SUCH PATCHES OR SABOTS ARE USED, IT IS POSSIBLE, EVEN UNDER OPTIMUM TOLERANCE CONDITIONS, FOR THE BALL AND PATCH OR SABOT TO DISENGAGE THEMSELVES FROM EACH OTHER. THIS RESULTS IN THE BALL MOVING FORWARD (LEAVING AIR SPACE BETWEEN THE PATCH OR SABOT AND THE BALL). UNDER SUCH CONDITIONS, THE BALL WILL ACT AS A BARREL OBSTRUCTION AND FIRING CAN RESULT IN INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

TO LOAD A ROUND BALL WITH A CLOTH PATCH:

• Lay a lubricated cloth patch over the muzzle and place the round ball in the center of the patch.

• Place the stubby end of the bullet starter on the top of the ball, as shown in Figure 10, and apply pressure until the ball starts into the barrel. A tightly patched ball will require a good deal of pressure and it starts suddenly. A tight fitting combination will load with some difficulty. Never attempt to start the ball with the ramrod. Used improperly the ramrod could break and possibly injure the person loading the firearm.

FIGURE 10



• Once the ball is started into the barrel, reverse the bullet starter as shown (Figure 11), and place the rod end on the top of the ball. With a sharp blow of the hand, drive the ball down about four inches into the barrel. The ball and patch have now been formed to the rifling and will (if the bore is not fouled) load easily the rest of the way down the bore until it rests firmly on the powder charge.

FIGURE 11

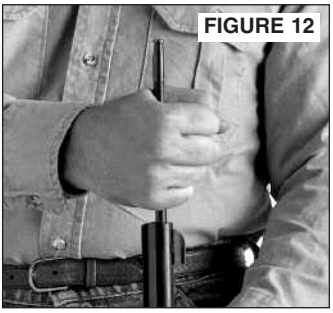
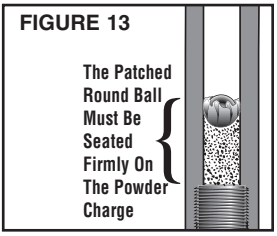


FIGURE 12

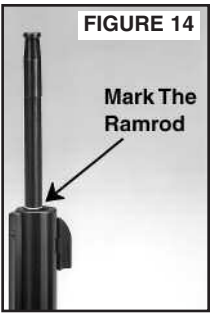
• Using the ramrod, push the ball the remainder of the way down the barrel until it firmly contacts the powder charge (Figure 12). Seat the ball firmly against the powder charge (Figure 13) but do not pound on it. Pounding on the ramrod will deform the ball. A deformed ball will not shoot accurately. Try to load and seat each patched lead ball with the same amount of pressure, shot after shot.



NOTE: With successive shots, fouling in the bore may build up in sufficient quantity to make loading more difficult, or even impossible. If, for any reason you experience progressively more difficult loading due to buildup of fouling, you must clean the bore, or safe loading will become impossible. See the section on "Cleaning".

• Use the ramrod to push the ball down the barrel and to seat it against the charge.

• Once the patched round ball has been loaded, carefully mark your ramrod at the muzzle. A reference mark on the ramrod will allow you to ensure that all the future projectiles are seated to the same depth (Figure 14).



• Remove the ramrod from the bore and return it to the thimbles.

Loading Conical Bullets or Sabots When Using Loose (granular) Black Powder or granular Pyrodex®

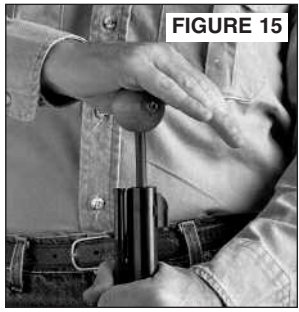


FIGURE 15

• Adjust the powder measure to dispense the desired charge and fill it with Black Powder or an approved Black Powder substitute, such as Pyrodex. To achieve accuracy, consistency in the powder charge is a must.

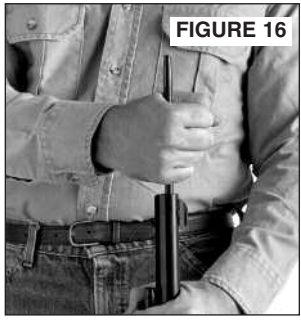


FIGURE 16

• With the hammer in the half-cock position and the firearm unprimed, set the rifle on its butt and hold the muzzle away from your face and body as pictured on page 21.

• Pour the measured charge down the barrel and strike the side of the barrel several sharp raps with the heel of your hand. This will settle the powder into the chamber area of the barrel.

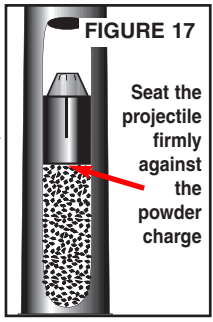


FIGURE 17

• Start the projectile into the bore using a short starter (Figure 15).

• Use the ramrod to seat the projectile firmly on top of the powder (Figure 16 & 17). Do not pound on the ramrod or beat the projectile with excessive force, so as to crush the powder or distort the bullet.

FIG. 18

• Mark your ramrod at the muzzle, ensuring that each time you seat a bullet on the powder the projectile is seated to this same same depth (Figure 18).

• Re-mark the ramrod each time you adjust the powder charge or change projectiles.

• If you are loading an all-lead conical bullet like T/C's Maxi-Ball™ or Maxi-Hunter® do not use any kind of cloth patch with these projectiles. They should be lubricated prior to loading, and are designed to be shot as cast (not sized further). T/C Maxi-Balls® and Maxi-Hunters™ come from the factory prelubricated. However, if you find some unlubricated bullets, we recommend that you lubricate them with Natural Lube 1000 Plus Bore Butter™.

• When loading a Maxi-Ball™ or Maxi-Hunter® bullet into the muzzle, you will note how only the forward most bearing band grooves to the rifling when loading. The base of the bullet upsets (increases in diameter) upon firing, causing it to fill the grooves, thus stabilizing the projectile and aiding accuracy.

• Remove the ramrod from the bore and return it to the thimbles.

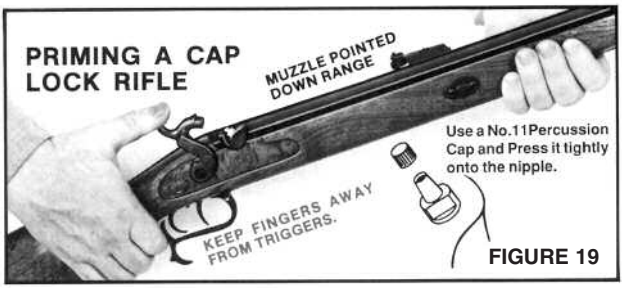
WARNING: NEVER FIRE A MUZZLELOADER UNLESS THE PROJECTILE IS FIRMLY SEATED AGAINST THE POWDER CHARGE AND THE RAMROD HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BORE. IF A PROJECTILE DOES NOT FIT TIGHTLY, THEN JARRING OR MOVEMENT OF THE FIREARM CAN CAUSE THE PROJECTILE TO MOVE FORWARD, OFF THE POWDER CHARGE. IF THE FIREARM IS FIRED WHEN A PROJECTILE IS OFF THE POWDER CHARGE, OR THE RAMROD IS STILL IN THE BORE, THEN THE PROJECTILE OR RAMROD CAN ACT AS A BORE OBSTRUCTION. THIS CAN RESULT IN A RUPTURED BARREL, CAUSING INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

IF, DUE TO FOULING, A BULLET OR BALL BECOMES LODGED PART WAY DOWN THE BARREL, THE FIREARM MUST BE DISASSEMBLED AND THE CHARGE REMOVED. SEE SECTIONS ON "DISASSEMBLY AND CLEANING".

PRIMING THE T/C HAWKEN™ CAP LOCK RIFLE

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WHEN YOU ARE READY TO FIRE YOUR CAP LOCK, PRIME IT AS SHOWN (Figure 19).


PRIMING A CAP LOCK RIFLE
MUZZLE POINTED DOWN RANGE
Use a No.11Percussion Cap and Press it tightly onto the nipple.
KEEP FINGERS AWAY FROM TRIGGERS.
FIGURE 19

• Hold the cap lock rifle firmly with the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and pull the hammer back to “cocked” position. Press the No. 11 Percussion Cap down tightly onto the nipple and the rifle is ready to fire.

• The rifle is now ready to fire and will fire if the trigger is pulled.

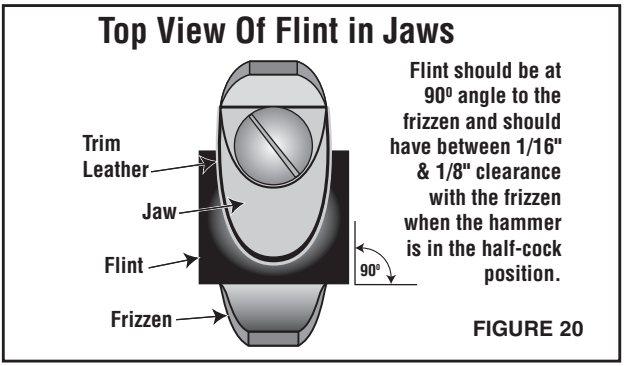
PRIMING THE T/C HAWKEN™ FLINT LOCK RIFLE

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

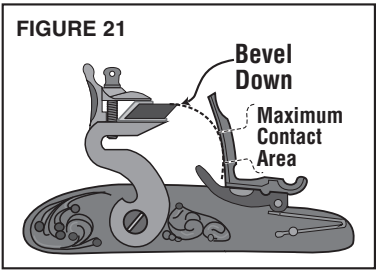
WARNING: DO NOT PRIME THE FIREARM UNTIL YOU ARE ACTUALLY READY TO FIRE AND YOU HAVE DOUBLE CHECKED TO ENSURE THAT THE RAMROD HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THE BORE. THOMPSON/CENTER DOES NOT RECOMMEND PRIMING THE FIREARM UNTIL THE INSTANT BEFORE FIRING. CARRYING A CHARGED, PRIMED HAWKEN™ CAN BE DANGEROUS. ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE IS A CONSTANT HAZARD WHICH, IF IT OCCURS, CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. THE ONLY SAFE WAY TO GUARD AGAINST AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE IS TO CARRY YOUR MUZZLELOADER UNPRIMED, WITH THE HAMMER IN THE "HALF-COCK" POSITION AND THE MUZZLE POINTED DOWNRANGE AWAY FROM YOURSELF OR OTHERS.

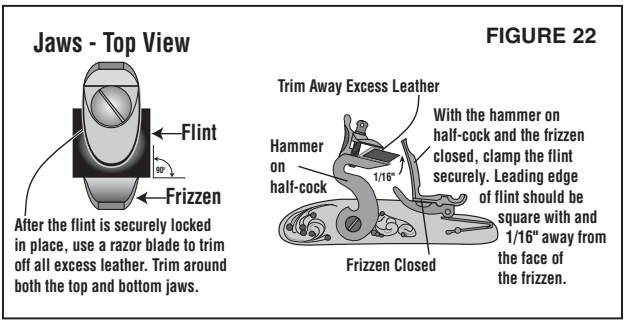
NOTE: Priming the pan of your flint lock correctly is as important as getting good sparks from your flint. The two go hand-in-hand with regards to reliable ignition. The following steps should be taken to ensure reliable ignition.

• Make sure the flint is aligned in the jaws squarely, so that the edge of the flint is horizontal across the face of the frizzen (Figure 20). This will ensure maximum contact of the entire flint edge along the face of the frizzen for maximum spark generation.


Top View Of Flint in Jaws
Trim Leather
Jaw
Flint
Frizzen
90°
Flint should be at 90° angle to the frizzen and should have between 1/16" & 1/8" clearance with the frizzen when the hammer is in the half-cock position.
FIGURE 20

• Ensure that the flint is well secured in the jaws, with the bevel down (Figure 21) to get maximum surface contact with the frizzen when the flint strikes the face of the frizzen. The higher the initial contact, the more surface area of the frizzen is used to create sparks. The more sparks there are, the more predictable the ignition of the main charge will be.




Jaws - Top View
Flint
90°
Frizzen
After the flint is securely locked in place, use a razor blade to trim off all excess leather. Trim around both the top and bottom jaws.
FIGURE 22
Trim Away Excess Leather
Hammer on half-cock
1/16"
With the hammer on half-cock and the frizzen closed, clamp the flint securely. Leading edge of flint should be square with and 1/16" away from the face of the frizzen.
Frizzen Closed

• After the flint is securely locked in place, trim off the excess leather around both the top and bottom jaws of the lock (Fig 22).

• Make sure the surfaces of the frizzen, the pan, and the flint are free of any oil or lubricant, and as dry as possible. Never wipe down these parts with any type of lubricant. If, in the process of cleaning your rifle, lubricant comes in contact with one or all of these parts, use a good degreaser to remove this oil. A dry ignition area is the key to good ignition with a flint lock.

• Sharp flints are a must for quick, positive ignition. Keep the front of the flint sharp by knapping if necessary.

• Always wear eye protection and hearing protection approved for use with firearms. Protect your arms from flying particles as well as by wearing a shirt with long sleeves. Those wearing long hair or beards should use extra caution when firing a flint lock. The flash from a flint lock can torch hair.

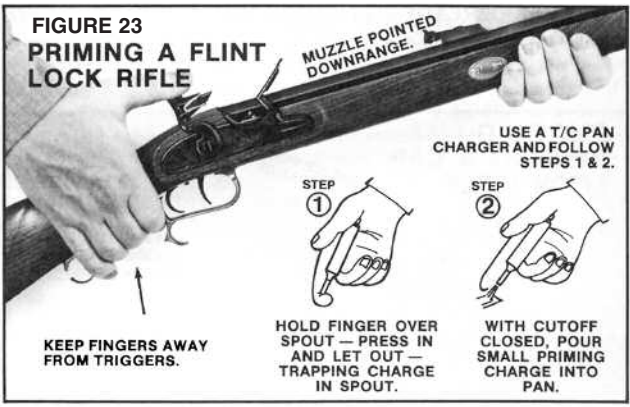
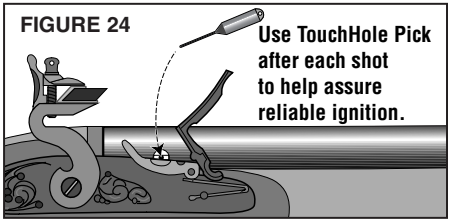


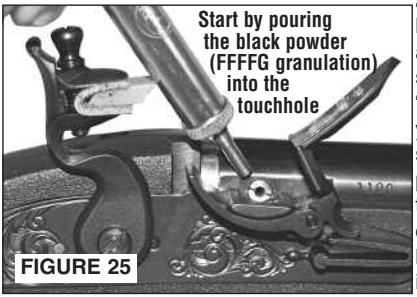
FIGURE 23
PRIMING A FLINT LOCK RIFLE
MUZZLE POINTED DOWNRANGE.
USE A T/C PAN CHARGER AND FOLLOW STEPS 1 & 2.
STEP 1
STEP 2
KEEP FINGERS AWAY FROM TRIGGERS.
HOLD FINGER OVER SPOUT — PRESS IN AND LET OUT — TRAPPING CHARGE IN SPOUT.
WITH CUTOFF CLOSED, POUR SMALL PRIMING CHARGE INTO PAN.

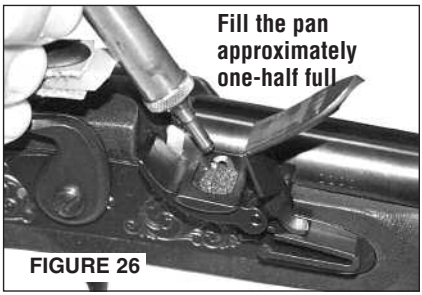
• Open the frizzen and proceed as follows.

• Use your touch-hole pick before loading initially and after each subsequent shot. Insert the pick into the touchhole and move it in and out to ensure that the full diameter of the touch hole is clear (Figure 24). You will probably notice after firing your flint lock, that a crust of powder residue builds up in the ignition channel, partially blocking it. This crust must be removed, and the channel cleared out to the full diameter, before re-loading, in order to get reliable ignition.



• When pouring your priming powder, start by pouring the black powder (FFFFG granulation) into the touchhole, then fill the pan approximately one-half full (Figures 25 and 26). By giving the stock a few light "taps" with the heel of your hand, you help settle some of the priming powder further into the ignition channel. This also helps to improve the ignition reliability.





WARNING: NEVER DRY-FIRE YOUR FLINT LOCK WHEN THE BARREL IS CHARGED. A SPARK FROM DRY-FIRING COULD RESULT IN AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE.

If you decide not to fire; make sure the gun is pointed in a safe direction, open the frizzen and remove the priming charge from the pan and touchhole.

FIRING THE CAP LOCK HAWKEN™

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: WEAR EYE AND EAR PROTECTION SPECIFIED FOR FIREARM USE EVERY TIME YOU DISCHARGE YOUR FIREARM. MAKE SURE OTHERS IN THE VICINITY OF WHERE YOU WILL BE SHOOTING DO SO AS WELL.

WARNING: ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION. CLEANING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, DISCHARGING FIREARMS, OR HANDLING AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS MAY RESULT IN EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS, REPRODUCTIVE HARM AND OTHER SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER EXPOSURE.

WARNING: NEVER RELY ON MECHANICAL FEATURES ALONE. ONLY YOUR SAFE GUN HANDLING WILL ENSURE THE SAFE USE OF YOUR FIREARM. THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.

WARNING: WHEN FIRING ANY FIREARM, HOLD IT FIRMLY, ALLOWING YOUR BODY WEIGHT TO ABSORB AND BUFFER THE FORCE OF THE RECOIL. AN IMPROPERLY HELD FIREARM CAN CAUSE POSSIBLE INJURY AND/OR BRUISING.

• Grasp firearm with one hand on the forend and other hand on the wrist of the stock with the trigger finger resting along and outside of the trigger guard.

• Draw the hammer back fully rearward to the "FULL-COCK" position (FIG. 28).

• Place a No.11 percussion cap on the nipple.

• The rifle will now fire when pressure is applied to the trigger.

• Raise firearm and pull buttstock firmly into shoulder.

• Place your finger on trigger and squeeze until the rifle fires.

• To reload, see the Section on "CHARGING".

CAP LOCK HAMMER IN "HALF-COCK" POSITION

FIG. 27

CAP LOCK HAMMER IN "COCKED" POSITION

FIG. 28

CAP LOCK HAMMER IN "FIRED" POSITION RESTING ON NIPPLE

FIG. 29

• If you decide not to fire, remove the cap from the nipple. Use a suitable decapping tool like T/C's Decapper. Hold your thumb on the hammer so that it can not drop freely and pull the trigger. Allow the hammer to move forward slowly until it rests on the nipple. Return the hammer to half-cock position.

WARNING: IF THE FIREARM IS NO LONGER GOING TO BE USED, UNCHARGE IT BY FIRING IT INTO A SUITABLE BACKSTOP OR PULL THE CHARGE BEFORE RETURNING IT TO YOUR VEHICLE, CAMP OR HOME (SEE SECTION ON "UNLOADING"). AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

WARNING: IF YOUR FIREARM GIVES ANY INDICATION THAT IT IS NOT PERFORMING PROPERLY OR THE OPERATION OF YOUR FIREARM HAS CHANGED "THE WAY IT FEELS OR SOUNDS", STOP FIRING. MAKE SURE THE FIREARM IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, UNLOAD THE FIREARM AND HAVE IT INSPECTED BY A FACTORY TECHNICIAN. CALL THOMPSON/CENTER CUSTOMER SUPPORT.

FIRING THE FLINT LOCK HAWKEN™

WARNING: FOLLOW ALL THE SAME WARNINGS THAT APPLY TO FIRING A CAP LOCK MODEL (SEE PAGE 32).

WARNING: WHEN FIRING ANY FLINT LOCK MUZZLELOADER, THE "FLASH" FROM THE TOUCHHOLE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE INJURY. KEEP PEOPLE AND FLAMMABLE MATERIAL AWAY.

The instant before firing, you must prime the Hawken™ muzzleloading rifle. With the muzzle pointed in a safe direction and the hammer in the half-cock position, open the frizzen and charge the pan as directed previously in the Priming Section.

• Grasp firearm with one hand on the forend and other hand on the wrist of the stock with the trigger finger resting along and outside of the trigger guard. Raise firearm and pull buttstock firmly into shoulder.

• Draw the hammer back fully rearward to the "FULL-COCK" position (Figure 31).

• The rifle will now fire when pressure is applied to the trigger.

• Place your finger on trigger and squeeze until the rifle fires.

• To reload, see the Section on "CHARGING".

FLINT LOCK HAMMER IN "HALF-COCK" POSITION - FRIZZEN CLOSED

FIG. 30

FLINT LOCK HAMMER IN "COCKED" POSITION - FRIZZEN CLOSED

FIG. 31

FLINT LOCK HAMMER IN "FIRED" POSITION FRIZZEN OPEN

FIG. 32

WARNING: KEEP PEOPLE AND FLAMMABLE MATERIAL AWAY FROM THE TOUCHHOLE AREA. WHEN FIRING ANY FLINT LOCK MUZZLE-LOADER, THE "FLASH" FROM THE TOUCHHOLE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO CAUSE INJURY.

WARNING: IF THE FIREARM IS NO LONGER GOING TO BE USED, UNCHARGE IT BY FIRING IT INTO A SUITABLE BACKSTOP OR PULL THE CHARGE BEFORE RETURNING IT TO YOUR VEHICLE, CAMP OR HOME (SEE SECTION ON "UNLOADING"). AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

• If you decide not to fire, open the frizzen and dump the priming charge. Leave the frizzen open. Hold your thumb on the hammer so that it can not drop freely, and pull the trigger. Allow the hammer to move slowly forward until it reaches the "FIRED" position (Figure 32). Return the hammer to half-cock position (Figure 30).

WARNING: IF YOUR FIREARM GIVES ANY INDICATION THAT IT IS NOT PERFORMING PROPERLY OR THE OPERATION OF YOUR FIREARM HAS CHANGED "THE WAY IT FEELS OR SOUNDS", STOP FIRING. MAKE SURE THE FIREARM IS POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, UNLOAD THE FIREARM AND HAVE IT INSPECTED BY A FACTORY TECHNICIAN. CALL THOMPSON/CENTER CUSTOMER SUPPORT.

UNLOADING AND UNCHARGING

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: NEVER ATTEMPT TO PULL A CHARGE FROM YOUR MUZZLELOADER UNTIL YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT THE FIREARM IS UNPRIMED.

DO NOT SMOKE, OR BE NEAR ANYONE ELSE WHO IS SMOKING WHILE IN THE PROCESS OF PULLING THE CHARGE; THE SPARK FROM A LIGHTED CIGARETTE, CIGAR, OR PIPE CAN IGNITE BLACK POWDER, PYRODEX, OR PRIMERS.

AN EXTERNAL SPARK SOURCE CAN IGNITE YOUR POWDER CHARGE, CAUSING AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE, WHICH COULD RESULT IN INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

UNLOADING A CHARGE FROM THE HAWKEN™ MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

• Under normal conditions the Hawken™ muzzleloading rifle is unloaded simply by firing it into a suitable and safe backstop. There are, however, some conditions under which the firearm cannot be fired and the charge must be removed manually.

SOME OF THE MOST COMMON REASONS FOR MANUALLY REMOVING A CHARGE ARE AS FOLLOWS:

• If the projectile is not seated firmly against the powder charge, stop immediately! Do not attempt to fire the rifle. You must remove the charge and clean the barrel before firing.

• If the rifle is loaded in a proper manner yet fails to fire after repeated repriming and clearing of the ignition channel.

• If you are at a location that is unsuitable for discharging the firearm before transporting it.

To remove a charge from your T/C Hawken™ Muzzleloader it will be necessary to take the following steps:

• Ensure that the gun is unprimed. Remove the cap from the nipple on the cap lock or open the frizzen and remove any priming powder that may be present from the flint lock.

• Remove the barrel from the stock.

• Obtain a container that is wide enough to accept the barrel.

UNLOADING & UNCHARGING CONT'D

• Add about 8˝ of water to the container (hot water is best).

• Submerge the breech and of the barrel in the water to the render the powder inert.

• Once the breech end of the barrel has been soaked in the hot water for at least 1/2 hour and the powder charge has been rendered inert, you should remove the projectile with a bullet puller on the end of the ramrod.

• Once projectile and charge have been removed, clean the barrel (and breech plug) in accordance with the instructions in this manual.

• If for any reason you are unable to remove the charge, make sure the charge has been rendered inert with hot water, followed by squirting oil into the breech area through the nipple channel or touchhole, and return the barrel to the Service Department with a letter describing the problem.

FIELD CLEANING

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: NEVER ATTEMPT TO CLEAN A CHARGED OR PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM. AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

WARNING: ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION. CLEANING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, DISCHARGING FIREARMS, OR HANDLING AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS MAY RESULT IN EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS, REPRODUCTIVE HARM AND OTHER SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER EXPOSURE.

NOTE: Residue from burned black powder and black powder substitutes is very corrosive. The fouling or residue left over after firing your muzzleloading firearm can be destructive to gun's parts. Leaving your firearm unclean with this fouling present can lead to a ruined firearm, as parts will rust and oxidize in short order.

Also, the build up of fouling from shot to shot can affect accuracy. The lubricant used, the amount of powder in the charge, and the projectile used (sabot, pure-lead conical bullet or patched roundball) will affect the amount of fouling produced with each shot. Eventually, if not cleaned, the muzzleloading firearm will become impossible to load properly. Driven part way down the bore and blocked by fouling, a projectile may "hang up" and refuse to budge further.

WARNING: A PROJECTILE WHICH IS SEATED ONLY PART WAY DOWN THE BARREL SETS UP A HIGHLY DANGEROUS CONDITION WHICH MAY CAUSE A BURST BARREL AND INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDER AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY. THE PROJECTILE MUST BE SEATED FIRMLY AGAINST THE POWDER CHARGE. IF THE PROJECTILE IS NOT SEATED AGAINST THE POWDER CHARGE THE FIREARM MUST BE DISASSEMBLED AND THE CHARGE REMOVED (SEE SECTION ON "PULLING A CHARGE"). NEVER FIRE A MUZZLELOADING FIREARM UNLESS THE PROJECTILE IS FIRMLY SEATED ON THE POWDER CHARGE.

• The Thompson/Center Hawken™ muzzleloading rifle was supplied with a cleaning jag (that goes on the end of the ramrod) which is the proper size for cleaning the rifle. Use commercial cleaning patches (round or square) or pieces of discarded clothing to clean the bore.

• Use the cleaning jag that was provided with the Hawken™, and a cleaning patch saturated with a bore cleaner like Thompson/Center's Number 13® Bore Cleaner (Figure 33). Run the saturated patch up and down the bore a few times - to remove the fouling (Figure 34).

• Number 13® Bore Cleaner is specifically designed for cleaning Black Powder or Pyrodex® fouling.

• After removing all the fouling, follow up with a few dry patches to thoroughly dry the bore.

• Clean the trigger guard assembly with a soft bristle brush dampened with some bore cleaner When the trigger guard is dry, lightly oil it. Re-assemble and check for proper functioning of the hammer and trigger mechanism.

FIGURE 33

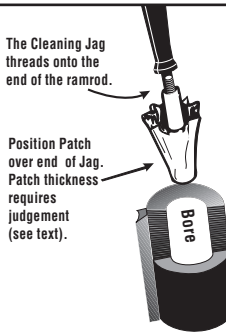

The Cleaning Jag threads onto the end of the ramrod.
Position Patch over end of Jag. Patch thickness requires judgement (see text).
Bore

FIGURE 34

THOROUGH CLEANING

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: NEVER ATTEMPT TO CLEAN A CHARGED OR PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM. AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

WARNING: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES EVERY TIME YOU ASSEMBLE OR DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM.

WARNING: DO NOT ALTER, MODIFY OR REPLACE ANY OF THE PARTS OF YOUR FIREARM UNLESS THIS WORK IS PERFORMED BY A QUALIFIED GUNSMITH USING GENUINE THOMPSON/CENTER PARTS. IF YOU DO OTHERWISE, IMPROPER FUNCTIONING MAY OCCUR AND SERIOUS INJURY MAY RESULT.

WARNING: ALWAYS HAVE ADEQUATE VENTILATION. CLEANING FIREARMS IN POORLY VENTILATED AREAS, DISCHARGING FIREARMS, OR HANDLING AMMUNITION AND LOADING COMPONENTS MAY RESULT IN EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND OTHER SUBSTANCES KNOWN TO CAUSE BIRTH DEFECTS, REPRODUCTIVE HARM AND OTHER SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY. WASH HANDS THOROUGHLY AFTER EXPOSURE.

• Cleaning is essential to ensure the proper functioning of your firearm.

• Your firearm is a precision instrument. To ensure reliable function it is necessary to follow a routine maintenance procedure. When you are finished shooting for the day or for the season and plan to store the Hawken™ muzzleloader away, it is recommended that you clean the firearm thoroughly. Follow the instructions that follow for disassembly of the muzzleloader and thorough cleaning:

CAUTION:
Always follow the instructions provided with your gun cleaner and gun lubricant.

CAUTION:
Some cleaners can cause damage to your firearms. You should avoid prolonged solvent immersion and prolonged ultrasonic cleaning of your firearm. Choice of solvent should be restricted to those products specifically developed for firearms maintenance. Damage to a firearm's finish may occur if these cautions are ignored. Ammoniated solvents or other strong alkaline solvents, should not be used on any Thompson/Center firearm. As a rule of thumb, if you would be comfortable applying the solvent of your choice to the finish of your automobile, it will probably be safe for use on your firearm.

DISASSEMBLY FOR CLEANING

WARNING: ALWAYS KEEP THE MUZZLE POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: NEVER ATTEMPT TO CLEAN OR DISASSEMBLE A CHARGED OR PRIMED MUZZLELOADING FIREARM. AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

WARNING: WEAR SAFETY GLASSES EVERY TIME YOU ASSEMBLE OR DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM.

- **NEVER DISASSEMBLE YOUR FIREARM** beyond the procedures outlined in this manual. Improper disassembly or reassembly of your firearm may be dangerous and can lead to serious injury or death.

To disassemble the Hawken™ flint lock rifle;

• Remove the ramrod - set it aside.

• Pull out the wedge pin. It may be necessary to tap it partially out from the other side in order to grasp the pin and pull it the rest of the way out.

• Lift the barrel up as shown (Figure 35) and pull it forward - away from the lock assembly. Pull the barrel forward, thus pulling the breech plug out of the breech plug slot in the tang.

FIGURE 35

• Next in the cleaning process; fill a pan with hot soapy water. Submerge the muzzle end of the barrel in the water and push a wet patch down the barrel (from the breech end) on the end of your ramrod with a jag installed. Pump the ramrod and patch up and down in the barrel. This will draw water into the barrel and flush out the fouling. When the barrel is clean - allow it to dry.

DISASSEMBLY FOR CLEANING CONT'D

• Thoroughly wipe any powder residue from the hammer/trigger assembly and receiver. Dry the parts thoroughly.

• Remove the nipple on the cap lock model (or the touchhole bushing on the flint lock) and clean it and the corresponding threads in the barrel. Dry the parts thoroughly and reassemble the bushing into the barrel.

• After cleaning your Hawken™ muzzleloading rifle, it is recommended that you lightly lubricate the metal surfaces of the rifle to prevent rust and corrosion. Do not use heavy grease or oil, as during cold weather, lubricant may congeal and slow or stop the hammer fall when the trigger is pulled.

• With the barrel completely dry, lightly lubricate the bore with a quality gun lubricant. Re-install the breech plug, making sure that you have lubricated all of the threads with an anti-seize lubricant like T/C's Super Lube.

• Remove any fouling on the exterior parts with an cloth dampened with T/C's Number 13® Bore Cleaner - followed by drying and a light application of oil suitable for firearms.

• If other service is required, contact the Thompson/Center Customer Service Department.

• This photograph shows the extent to which the Hawken™ should be disassembled (Figure 36).

FIGURE 36

RE-ASSEMBLY OF THE T/C HAWKEN™

WARNING: ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

WARNING: VERIFY THAT THE RIFLE BARREL IS NOT LOADED BY DROPPING THE RAMROD DOWN THE BORE. THE RAMROD WILL PROTRUDE ABOUT ONE INCH FROM AN UNCHARGED BARREL.

Follow these steps to assemble your Hawken™:

• Remove the ramrod from the thimbles under the barrel.

• Grasp the barrel, and insert the hooked breech into the hole in the tang, making sure that the breech plug fits closely against the tang before tipping the barrel down into the forearm channel.

• Tip the barrel down into the barrel channel in the stock.

• Hold the barrel and forearm of the stock together with your hand, and insert the wedge pin through the escutcheon hole in the forend. The pin should fit snugly, and may have to be gently tapped into position for full engagement.

Note: If, when bringing the forend and barrel together there is heavy resistance, stop and check to see that the hooked breech plug on the barrel is fully seated in the breech plug slot in the tang.

• Once the barrel has been seated in the forearm and the wedge pin is in place, reinsert the ramrod into the thimbles under the barrel.

SIGHT ADJUSTMENT

WARNING: ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

• The T/C Hawken™ muzzleloader is equipped with a standard rifle rear sight (Figure 37) which is adjustable for elevation by moving the elevation “blade” up or down to change the point of impact. To do this, turn the Elevation Adjustment Screw clockwise (as viewed from the breech end) to lower the point of impact, and counter-clockwise, to raise the point of impact.

• To adjust the windage it is necessary to move the rear sight leaf left or right by using the slotted screw head on the right side of the rear sight (as viewed from the breech end). Move the rear sight blade in the direction you want your shots to hit-- (Example; Turn the screw clockwise - thereby moving the sight blade to the right, to move your shots to the right and counter-clockwise to move the shots to the left).

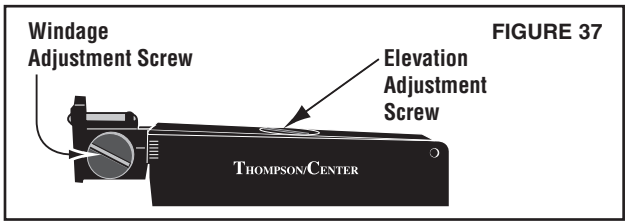


FIGURE 37

THE HAWKEN™ TRIGGER MECHANISM

WARNING: ALWAYS POINT THE MUZZLE IN A SAFE DIRECTION.

• The Thompson/Center Hawken™ muzzleloading rifles are equipped with “double” triggers. This trigger will function either as “double-set” or “single stage”. In other words, you need not set the rear trigger to fire the rifle. The rifle will fire simply by pulling the hammer to full-cock position and squeezing the front (firing) trigger.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SET (REAR) TRIGGER IS TO DECREASE THE TRIGGER PULL. ALWAYS BE CERTAIN THAT THE RIFLE IS ON TARGET BEFORE YOU SET THE TRIGGER. WHEN READY, SQUEEZE THE REAR TRIGGER HARD UNTIL AN AUDIBLE “CLICK” IS HEARD. THE FRONT TRIGGER WILL NOW HAVE A VERY LIGHT TRIGGER PULL SO BE EXTREMELY CAREFUL. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE RULES MAY CAUSE AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE, RESULTING IN INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

ADJUSTMENT OF THE SET TRIGGER

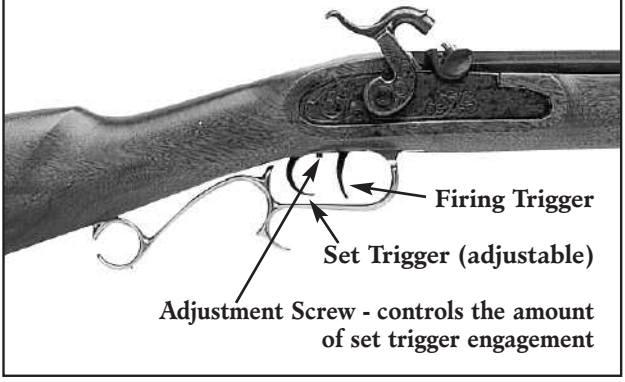
• The adjustment screw located in front of the rear trigger controls the amount of set trigger engagement. This adjustment screw has no affect on single stage trigger pull! Single stage trigger pull is non-adjustable (Figure 38).

• The set triggers on T/C rifles are adjusted to our production standard before shipment. Triggers are adjusted to what we feel is an optimum let-off travel.

• In order to check the adjustment for let-off travel, the following procedure should be used: With the rifle uncharged and unprimed, place the hammer in half-cock position. Set the rear trigger. With the trigger "set", carefully turn the adjustment screw clockwise until the trigger mechanism "snaps" into "unset" position. Stop turning the instant the mechanism "snaps". Do not turn the adjustment screw beyond this point for it marks the instant of total set trigger disengagement. Once the mechanism "snaps", turn the adjustment screw counter clockwise one full turn.

THIS IS THE MINIMUM SETTING FOR LET-OFF TRAVEL WITH THE TRIGGER SET. IF YOU REQUIRE ADDITIONAL LET-OFF TRAVEL, CONTINUE TURNING THE SCREW COUNTER CLOCKWISE UNTIL YOU REACH THE DESIRED ENGAGEMENT. IN NO EVENT SHOULD THE ENGAGEMENT BE SET AT LESS THAN ONE FULL TURN COUNTER CLOCKWISE FROM THE POINT OF TOTAL SET TRIGGER DISENGAGEMENT. IMPROPER USE AND/OR IMPROPER ADJUSTMENT OF THE SET TRIGGERS CAN RESULT IN AN ACCIDENTAL DISCHARGE WHICH CAN CAUSE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

FIGURE 38 Double-Set Trigger Details



LIMITED LIFETIME WARRANTY

• This warranty is granted by Thompson/Center Arms Company, Inc. This warranty, which shall last for the Lifetime of the original owner of any factory finished firearm, is established by the return of the Thompson/Center Arms authorized warranty card within thirty (30) days of purchase of such firearm. With respect to such firearm, this warranty supersedes any and all other warranties.

• Thompson/Center Arms firearms are warranted to be free from defects in material and workmanship. Any such defects of which Thompson/Center Arms receives written notice by the original owner will be remedied by Thompson/Center Arms without charge within a reasonable time after such notification and delivery of the firearm as provided below.

• Warranty claims (in writing) and the firearm or part thereof concerned should be delivered, postage prepaid, to the factory at Thompson/Center, 400 North Main Street, Rochester, New Hampshire, 03867. In addition, a copy of the bill of sale in the owner's name, or, where applicable, a copy of ATF Form 4473 indicating date of purchase must be included. It is important that the owner comply will all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations in the shipment of firearms to Thompson/Center Arms.

• Warranty claims should state the model and, where applicable, the serial number of the firearm concerned and the description of the difficulty experienced. It is recommended that shipments be insured by the owner, since Thompson/Center Arms will accept no responsibility for loss or damage in transit. Transportation and insurance charges for return to the owner will be paid by Thompson/Center Arms if the claim is covered by this warranty.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHALL THOMPSON/CENTER ARMS BE RESPONSIBLE FOR INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES WITH RESPECT TO ECONOMIC LOSS, INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE, WHETHER AS A RESULT OF BREACH OF THIS WARRANTY, NEGLIGENCE OR OTHERWISE.

• Some States do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation or exclusion may not apply to you.

• Thompson/Center Arms will not be responsible for:

• Defects or malfunctions resulting from careless handling, unauthorized adjustments or modifications made or attempted by anyone other than a qualified gunsmith following Thompson/Center Arms authorized procedures, or failure to follow the instructions in the Thompson/Center Arms Safety & Instruction manual.

• Use of defective or improper ammunition and/or propellant, corrosion, neglect, abuse, ordinary wear and tear, or unreasonable use.

• Use of replacement parts, including but not limited to barrels and springs, other than Thompson/Center Arms factory or authorized parts.

• Criminal misuse, negligence, or use under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

• Services performed by the Thompson/Center Arms Custom Shop and/or Repair Department do not void this warranty. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from State to State.

• Note: All liability is excluded in the event that the instructions in the Thompson/Center Arms Safety and Instruction manual are not observed.

CONTACT & SHIPPING FOR SERVICE

Thompson/Center Shipping Address:
Thompson/Center
400 North Main St.
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

Should your Thompson/Center firearm require service, it should be returned to the Thompson/Center factory.

- Call or e-mail the Customer Service Dept. for authorization and shipping instructions.
- Ensure that the magazine and chamber are unloaded.
- **Do not attempt to ship a firearm via US Postal Service; only federally licensed dealers may ship a firearm by US Postal Service.**
- **DO NOT SHIP ANY AMMUNITION.**
- Enclose a letter which includes your full name and address (no P.O. Boxes, please), daytime telephone number, e-mail address, the serial number of the firearm, and details of the problem experienced (stating the brand and type of ammunition used when the problem occurred) or work desired.
- Record the serial number before shipping, in case you wish to check on the repair status of your firearm.

- Please remove all custom parts and accessories, such as stocks, special sights and scopes, or slings from your firearm before returning.

- Place the firearm in its original case or in a similarly secure container and pack it securely.

- The package must **NOT** bear any markings which indicate the identity of the contents.

- It is most important that you comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations. The following guidelines are meant to help, but you must seek assistance from the appropriate authorities if necessary.

- If your firearm must be replaced, it *may* be necessary to ship the replacement to a dealer rather than directly to you. You *may* be requested to furnish a signed FFL (Federal Firearms License) from your dealer in such an instance.

- Warranty repair work will begin upon receipt and examination of the firearm. In the case of repairs or work not covered by the warranty, a quotation covering the cost of the work plus shipping charges will be sent to you. Repairs or modification will begin upon receipt of payment.

WARNING: YOU MAY PURCHASE ACCESSORIES FOR YOUR THOMPSON/CENTER FIREARM. YOU MUST HAVE SOME OF THESE PARTS INSTALLED BY A GUNSMITH QUALIFIED TO PERFORM SERVICE ON THOMPSON/CENTER FIREARMS. NEVER ATTEMPT TO MODIFY YOUR FIREARM OR INSTALL REPLACEMENT PARTS IN YOUR FIREARM. ALWAYS USE A QUALIFIED THOMPSON/CENTER GUNSMITH EVEN IF THE REPAIR SEEMS SIMPLE.

LOAD COMPONENTS

WARNING: NEVER USE LOADING COMPONENTS NOT SPECIFICALLY REFERENCED IN THIS MANUAL. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THIS RULE MAY CAUSE EXCESSIVE PRESSURE WHICH CAN DAMAGE OR EVEN RUPTURE YOUR FIREARM, CAUSING PERSONAL INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE.

- **USE ONLY BLACK POWDER OR AN APPROVED BLACK POWDER SUBSTITUTE SUCH AS PYRODEX® TO LOAD YOUR MUZZLELOADING FIREARM**. Never use even small amounts of smokeless powder, even if it is black in color. The use of any other propellant may cause injury or death to the shooter or bystanders and damage to property.

- **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR USING THE CORRECT COMBINATION OF LOAD COMPONENTS IN YOUR Hawken™ MUZZLELOADER** as detailed in this manual.

NOTE: Different combinations of bullet weight and powder charge can have a major effect on felt recoil. Heavier bullets and heavier powder charges will result in more recoil.

WARNING: DEATH, SERIOUS INJURY AND DAMAGE CAN RESULT FROM THE USE OF INCORRECT LOAD COMPONENTS.

SUGGESTED LOADS FOR THE T/C HAWKEN™ MUZZLELOADER

• The following charts show recommended charges using Black Powder or Pyrodex® as the propellant for the Thompson/Center Hawken™ muzzleloading rifle. Loads are listed by caliber, powder charge and type of projectile.

Note that in each instance a series of charges are listed. More than one charge is shown in each category to illustrate the appropriate powder charge range for that particular caliber, gun model and projectile.

WARNING: MAXIMUM LOADS ARE NOT TO BE EXCEEDED NOR IS A SUBSTITUTION OF POWDER OR GRANULATIONS TO BE ATTEMPTED! ONLY USE LOADS THAT ARE LISTED FOR YOUR PARTICULAR CALIBER, MODEL AND BULLET STYLE. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

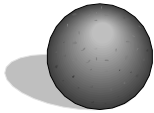
• The shooter is instructed to start with the lightest charge listed. As you become familiar with the firearm, increase your charges gradually until you reach your best performing load (most accurate). Thompson/Center Arms is not responsible for loading information printed in sources other than this booklet.

NOTE: All loading data contained in this book is the result of testing by Thompson/Center Arms. Testing was done under carefully controlled conditions with the components specified in the text. 28 inch barrels were used to produce the data (unless otherwise specified).

• Since Thompson/Center has no control over the components or equipment which may be used with this information, no responsibility is implied or assumed for the results obtained.

WARNING: THE LOADING DATA FOUND IN THIS MANUAL WAS COMPILED USING BLACK POWDER OR PYRODEX® AS A PROPELLANT. WITH ANY OTHER APPROVED BLACK POWDER SUBSTITUTE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS SUPPLIED BY THE MANUFACTURER AND HEED ALL WARNINGS AS THEY APPLY TO LOADING AND USAGE OF THAT PRODUCT.

PATCHED .490″ ROUND BALL LOADS



For Use With .50 Caliber Hawken™ Patches Lubricated with Natural Lube 1000 Plus Bore Butter™ #11 Cap or T/C Flint with FFFFG (4F) Black Powder (Priming Powder)		.50 Caliber Rifle Using Black Powder & Pure Lead Round Ball Loads	
.490" Diameter Lead Ball Weight (Grains)	Black Powder Charge (Grains)	Muzzle Velocity (Feet Per Second)	Muzzle Energy (Foot Pounds)
175 Grain Lead Ball	50 grs. FFG	1357 F.P.S.	716 Ft. Lbs.
	60 grs. FFG	1434 F.P.S.	799 Ft. Lbs.
	70 grs. FFG	1643 F.P.S.	1050 Ft. Lbs.
	80 grs. FFG	1838 F.P.S.	1313 Ft. Lbs.
	90 grs. FFG	1950 F.P.S.	1478 Ft. Lbs.
	100 grs. FFG	2052 F.P.S.	1637 Ft. Lbs.
	110 grs. FFG	2135 F.P.S.	1772 Ft. Lbs.
Load Shown in Red is Maximum			

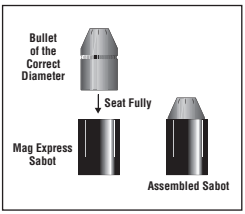
LUBRICATED T/C MAXI-BULLET LOADS

For Use With .50 Caliber Hawken™ Bullets Lubricated with Natural Lube 1000 Plus Bore Butter™ #11 Cap or T/C Flint with FFFFG (4F) Black Powder (Priming Powder)		.50 Caliber Rifle Using Black Powder & Maxi-Ball™ or Maxi-Hunter® Bullet	
For Use With .50 cal Bullets Weighing (Grains)	Black Powder Charge (Grains)	Muzzle Velocity (Feet Per Second)	Muzzle Energy (Foot Pounds)
275 Grain Maxi-Hunter® or 320 Grain Maxi-Ball™ Lead Bullet	80 grs. FFG	1408 F.P.S.	1409 Ft. Lbs.
	90 grs. FFG	1462 F.P.S.	1519 Ft. Lbs.
	100 grs. FFG	1511 F.P.S.	1623 Ft. Lbs.
	110 grs. FFG	1588 F.P.S.	1792 Ft. Lbs.
350 Gr. Maxi-Hunter® Or 370 Gr Maxi-Ball™	80 grs. FFG	1344 F.P.S.	1484 Ft. Lbs.
	90 grs. FFG	1426 F.P.S.	1671 Ft. Lbs.
	100 grs. FFG	1478 F.P.S.	1795 Ft. Lbs.
Load Shown in Red is Maximum			

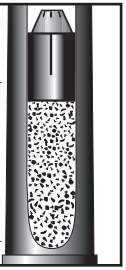
Assembly & Loading T/C Mag Express® & Shock Wave® Sabots

• T/C Sabots come in several variations for .50 caliber muzzleloading applications; some accept 44 caliber (.429″ - .430″ diameter) bullets and others accept 45 caliber (.451″ - .452″ diameter) bullets. In either case, insert the correct diameter projectile into the sabot and press firmly, making sure the bullet is fully seated

FIGURE 39



The Assembled Sabot Must Be Seated Firmly On The Powder Charge.



WARNING: WHEN LOADING T/C'S MAG EXPRESS® SABOTS, MAKE SURE THAT YOUR GUN IS UNPRIMED, AND THAT YOUR SABOT HAS BEEN PROPERLY ASSEMBLED. FAILURE TO ASSEMBLE AND LOAD YOUR SABOT CORRECTLY COULD RESULT IN THE BULLET DISENGAGING FROM THE SABOT. THIS COULD RESULT IN AN AIR SPACE BETWEEN THE COMPONENTS. UNDER SUCH A CONDITION, ONE OR MORE OF THE COMPONENTS MAY ACT AS A BARREL OBSTRUCTION AND FIRING COULD RESULT IN INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

• To properly assemble your T/C Mag Express® Sabot, insert the projectile into the sabot and press firmly, making sure the bullet is fully seated (Figure 39). Use only bullets of the correct diameter.

WARNING: USE ONLY PROJECTILES OF THE CORRECT DIAMETER THAT WERE DESIGNED FOR THE SABOTS YOU ARE USING. USING BULLETS OF LESSER DIAMETER MAY CAUSE THE BULLET TO SEPARATE FROM THE SABOT RESULTING IN A BARREL OBSTRUCTION. USING BULLETS OF LARGER DIAMETER COULD RESULT IN DIFFICULT LOADING, OR A CONDITION WHERE THE SABOT IS NOT SEATED ALL THE WAY DOWN ON THE POWDER CHARGE, RESULTING IN A BARREL OBSTRUCTION. EITHER CASE CAN RESULT IN A DAMAGED FIREARM AND POSSIBLE INJURY AND/OR DEATH TO THE SHOOTER OR BYSTANDERS AND DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

WARNING: THE LOAD DATA PROVIDED HERE IS FOR USE IN RIFLES OF THOMPSON/CENTER MANUFACTURE ONLY. FOR LOAD DATA FOR OTHER BRANDS REFER TO THEIR LOADING

For Use With .50 Caliber Hawken™ #11 Cap or T/C Flint with FFFFG (4F) Black Powder (Priming Powder)		.50 Caliber Rifle Using Black Powder & Mag Express® Sabot Loads	
For Use With Bullets Weighing (Grains)	Black Powder Charge (Grains)	Muzzle Velocity (Feet Per Second)	Muzzle Energy (Foot Pounds)
180 Gr Bullet Like The Thompson/Center XTP™	80 grs. FFG	1609 F.P.S.	1035 Ft. Lbs.
	90 grs. FFG	1685 F.P.S.	1135 Ft. Lbs.
	100 grs. FFG	1737 F.P.S.	1206 Ft. Lbs.
	110 grs. FFG	1766 F.P.S.	1247 Ft. Lbs.
240 Gr Bullet Like The T/C XTP™	80 grs. FFG	1511 F.P.S.	1217 Ft. Lbs.
	90 grs. FFG	1629 F.P.S.	1414 Ft. Lbs.
	100 grs. FFG	1672 F.P.S.	1490 Ft. Lbs.
250 Gr Bullet Like The T/C PTX™	80 grs. FFG	1472 F.P.S.	1203 Ft. Lbs.
	90 grs. FFG	1601 F.P.S.	1423 Ft. Lbs.
	100 grs. FFG	1642 F.P.S.	1497 Ft. Lbs.
Load Shown in Red is Maximum			

NOTES

NOTES

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Important Note: For fire, theft and insurance purposes, retain this record with your important papers in a safe place.

My Thompson/Center:_____

Was Purchased From: _____

On (date): _____ **20**_____

Serial Number: _____ **Caliber:** _____

Accessories: _____

_____

Owner Registration Card Mailed on: _____

Notes: _____

_____

_____

_____

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This area is provided for your convenience. We suggest that you make a list of important information that pertains to your specific firearm (best performing load, etc.). Keep this booklet with your firearm and review your notes before each hunting season or whenever the firearm has not been used for extended periods of time.

T/C Mailing Address:

(for questions & comments)

Thompson/Center Arms Company, Inc.
PO Box 5002
Rochester, New Hampshire 03866

T/C Shipping Address:

(for repairs or warranty work)

Thompson/Center Arms Company, Inc.
ATTN: Repair Department
400 North Main Street
Rochester, New Hampshire 03867

Web Address:

www.tcarms.com

Customer Service Phone:

603-330-5659